

SwRI-2890-05

Amendment to the Drawings

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 1B and 2. These sheets, which include FIGS. 1A-2, replace the original sheets.

FIG. 1B is amended to show reference "V" to indicate the "bias voltage means."

FIG. 2 is amended to depict the "bias voltage means" shown in FIG. 1B, which is described in throughout the Detailed Description.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets 1 and 2.
Annotated Sheets 1 and 2 Showing Changes

SwRI-2890-05

REMARKS**Drawings**

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Office Action reports that the drawings do not show and must show a means for applying a bias voltage. FIG. 1B already depicts a means for applying a bias voltage (*e.g.*, as indicated by the "power supply" configuration). Applicant has amended FIG. 1B to indicate the means for applying a bias voltage with the reference letter "V".

FIG. 2 depicts a setup 10 that is a variation of the setup 20 depicted in FIG. 1B. FIG. 2 does not depict the setup 20 to include a representation of the bias voltage means "V". Operation of this second setup 20 is described, however, in terms of biasing the tube or magnetic assembly to a voltage in several examples (*see e.g.*, paragraphs [0029], [0030], [0032], [0033], and [0034]). To add clarity, FIG. 2 is amended to include the bias voltage means "V", previously shown in FIG. 1. No new matter is added by way of this drawing change because the added feature is, at least, shown in FIG. 1B and its operation is described in the Specification.

Applicant has also amended paragraphs [0018] and [0029] of the Detailed Description to include reference to the Drawing changes described above. No new matter is added, as explained above.

Claims

Claims 1-37 are currently pending in the application. Claim 37 was previously withdrawn, without prejudice. New claim 38 is added by way of this Amendment. Applicant appreciates and acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 1, 2, 4-16, and 18-28 are allowable.

Claims 30-36 are objected to as being dependent upon rejected based claims. These objections have been addressed by addressing the objection of independent claim 29. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 17, 29, and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, the Office Action reports that the term "high aspect ratio" does not have a clear meaning because "there would appear to be no generally accepted measure of high and low aspect ratio." Applicant respectfully disagrees and therefore, traverses the rejection.

SwRI-2890-05

The term "high aspect ratio" is clearly defined in, among other places, paragraph [0014] as typically "a ratio of length:diameter of about 3 or more, preferably, about 6 or more." The §112 rejection is, therefore, improper. In any event, Applicants have amended the claims to incorporate the definition. Support for these amendments are provided in the Detailed Description including paragraph [0014]. No new matter is added with this substitution of terms and no new issues are raised.

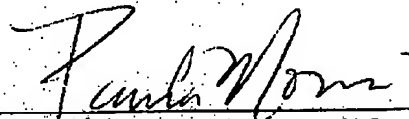
Withdrawal of the standing rejections of claims 3, 17, 29, and 35 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and objections to the specification/drawings. No fee is believed to be due at this time. If the appropriate Petition for an Extension of Time is not attached hereto (or any other Petition required of the application), this statement shall serve as Applicants' Petition to the U.S.P.T.O. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments related to this response to Deposit Account No. 50-0997 (SwRI-2890-05), maintained by Paula D. Morris & Associates, P.C. d/b/a Morris & Amatong, P.C..

The undersigned is available for consultation at any time, if the Examiner believes such consultation may expedite the resolution of any issues

Respectfully submitted,



Paula Morris, Reg. No. 31,516
Morris & Amatong, P.C.
10260 Westheimer, Suite 360
Houston, Texas 77042
Telephone: (713) 334-5151
Facsimile: (713) 334-5157
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

Appl. No. 10/807,039
 Amdt. Dated Dec. 21, 2005
 Reply to Office Action of 09-26-2005
 Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

1/3

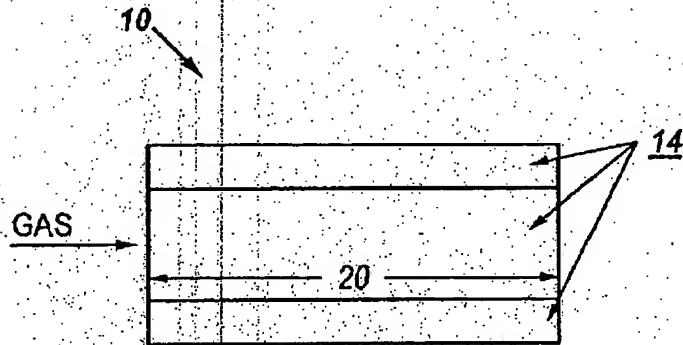


FIG. 1A

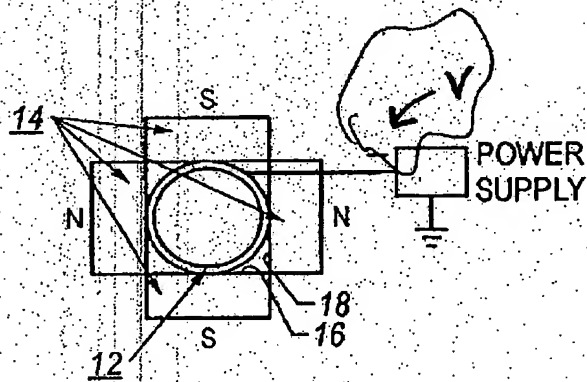


FIG. 1B

Appl. No. 10/807,039
 Amended Dec. 21, 2005
 Reply to Office Action of 09-26-2005
 Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

